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VISION, MISSION, and FUNCTIONS



**Extension
Service**

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Vision

Commitment and involvement are the foundation of Extension Service (ES). Through continually seeking the commitment and involvement of the entire ES organization to the realization of its mission, all staff members feel ES is their organization. Extension members communicate effectively with each other and with others.

Leadership and teamwork are Extension hallmarks. ES personnel give leadership to the Agency's mission, doing the right things and practicing effective leadership and management functions. ES is a can-do, will-do organization with strong teamwork throughout ES. Although success oriented, staff members are risk takers and learn from both successes and failures.

Human capital is its strength. Extension is an organization that values quality, productivity, creativity, and ethics. Being a dynamic, flexible organization, its resources are focused on real problems and quality programs. Extension has deliberate, systematic processes for determining common goals and priority needs of the organization's mission in ways that foster innovative, responsive, and rapid decisionmaking.

Educational networks for issue resolution and problem solving are its future. Extension fully utilizes its grassroots potential and its relationship with the nationwide land-grant system. ES people are well prepared and on the cutting edge of programs, seeking opportunities for professional collaboration and partnerships. Extension is dynamic, futuristic, and realistic.

Mission

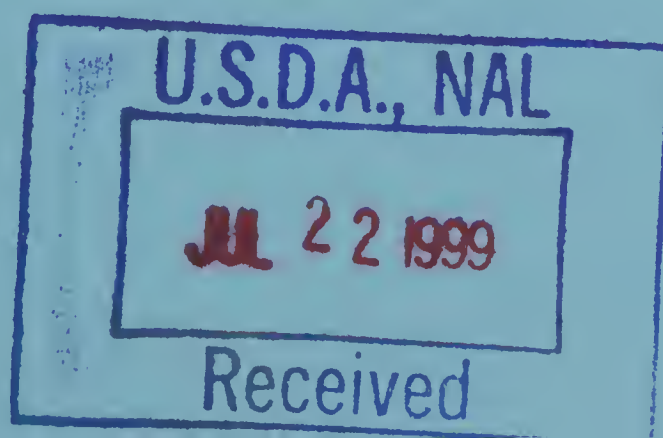
Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, is the Federal partner of the Cooperative Extension System.

The mission of Extension Service is to assure an effective nationwide Cooperative Extension System that is responsive to priority needs and the Federal interests and policies with quality information, education, and problem-solving programs.

Functions

The Extension Service mission is accomplished by five major functions:

- Initiate and facilitate the development and implementation of nationwide Extension policies and programs that address priority needs.
- Ensure high-quality programs, program management, and organization management and systems.
- Articulate the needs of the Cooperative Extension System for financial, facilities, research, and other resource needs to the Department, Executive Branch, and Congress and participate with them in developing policy statements and legislation.
- Represent Federal interests, policies, and legislation within the Cooperative Extension System.
- Develop and maintain a dynamic and effective ES staff, organizational structure and systems.



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